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Attorneys for Defendant  
SALLIE MAE, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

THERESA JOYCE,

Plaintiff,

v.

SALLIE MAE, INC., a corporation,  
and DOES 1 through 10 inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. C 08-03351 SI

**STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

**1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS**

Disclosure and discovery activity in this action are likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation would be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled under the applicable legal principles to treatment as confidential. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 11, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order creates no entitlement to file confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be followed and reflects the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

1           **2. DEFINITIONS**

2           2.1     Party: any party to this action, including all of its officers, directors, employees,  
3 consultants, retained experts, and outside counsel (and their support staff).

4           2.2     Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of the  
5 medium or manner generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things, testimony,  
6 transcripts, or tangible things) that are produced or generated in disclosures or responses to  
7 discovery in this matter.

8           2.3     "Confidential" Information or Items: information (regardless of how generated,  
9 stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under standards developed  
10 under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c).

11          2.4     [Deleted.]

12          2.5     Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a  
13 Producing Party.

14          2.6     Producing Party: a Party or non-party that produces Disclosure or Discovery  
15 Material in this action.

16          2.7.    Designating Party: a Party or non-party that designates information or items that it  
17 produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as "Confidential."

18          2.8     Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as  
19 "Confidential."

20          2.9.    Outside Counsel: attorneys who are not employees of a Party but who are retained  
21 to represent or advise a Party in this action.

22          2.10    House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a Party.

23          2.11    Counsel (without qualifier): Outside Counsel and House Counsel (as well as their  
24 support staffs).

25          2.12    Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to  
26 the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a  
27 consultant in this action and who is not a past or a current employee of a Party or of a competitor  
28 of a Party's and who, at the time of retention, is not anticipated to become an employee of a

Party or a competitor of a Party's. This definition includes a professional jury or trial consultant retained in connection with this litigation.

2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support services (e.g., photocopying; videotaping; translating; preparing exhibits or demonstrations; organizing, storing, retrieving data in any form or medium; etc.) and their employees and subcontractors.

### 3. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only Protected Material (as defined above), but also any information copied or extracted therefrom, as well as all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations thereof, plus testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or counsel to or in court or in other settings that might reveal Protected Material.

### 4. DURATION

Even after the termination of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs.

### 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each Party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. A Designating Party must take care to designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify – so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown to be clearly unjustified, or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber or retard the case development process, or to impose unnecessary

1 expenses and burdens on other parties), expose the Designating Party to sanctions.

2 If it comes to a Party's or a non-party's attention that information or items that it  
3 designated for protection do not qualify for protection at all, or do not qualify for the level of  
4 protection initially asserted, that Party or non-party must promptly notify all other parties that it  
5 is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

6 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this Order  
7 (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a), below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered,  
8 material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so designated before the  
9 material is disclosed or produced.

10 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

11 (a) for information in documentary form (apart from transcripts of depositions or other  
12 pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" on  
13 each page of a document that contains protected material [top, bottom or where there is space].  
14 If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing  
15 Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in  
16 the margins).

17 A Party or non-party that makes original documents or materials available for inspection  
18 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated which  
19 material it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before the designation, all  
20 of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the  
21 inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party  
22 must determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order,  
23 then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the legend  
24 "CONFIDENTIAL" on each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions  
25 of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify  
26 the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

27 (b) for testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial or trial proceedings, that the  
28 Party or non-party offering or sponsoring the testimony identify on the record, before the close

of the deposition, hearing, or other proceeding, all protected testimony. The Party or non-party that sponsors, offers, or gives the testimony may also invoke on the record (before the deposition or proceeding is concluded) a right to have up to twenty (20) days from receipt of a transcript of the testimony to identify the specific portions of the testimony as to which protection is sought. Only those portions of the testimony that are appropriately designated for protection within the twenty (20) days shall be covered by the provisions of this Stipulated Protective Order.

Transcript pages containing Protected Material must be separately bound by the court reporter, who must affix to the top of each such page the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" as instructed by the Party or nonparty offering or sponsoring the witness or presenting the testimony.

(c) for information produced in some form other than documentary, and for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the legend "CONFIDENTIAL." If only portions of the information or item warrant protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portions.

5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items as "Confidential" does not, standing alone, waive the Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material. If material is appropriately designated as "Confidential" after the material was initially produced, the Receiving Party, on timely notification of the designation, must make reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

## **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

6.1 Timing of Challenges. If any Party decides that a challenge to a Designating Party's confidentiality designation is necessary, it must make that challenge within fourteen days after the original designation is disclosed.

6.2 Meet and Confer. A Party that elects to initiate a challenge to a Designating Party's confidentiality designation must do so in good faith and must begin the process by

conferring directly (in voice to voice dialogue; other forms of communication are not sufficient) with counsel for the Designating Party. In conferring, the challenging Party must explain the basis for its belief that the confidentiality designation was not proper and must give the Designating Party an opportunity to review the designated material, to reconsider the circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to explain the basis for the chosen designation. A challenging Party may proceed to the next stage of the challenge process only if it has engaged in this meet and confer process first.

6.3 Judicial Intervention. A Party that elects to press a challenge to a confidentiality designation after considering the justification offered by the Designating Party may file and serve a motion under Civil Local Rule 7 (and in compliance with Civil Local Rule 79-5, if applicable) that identifies the challenged material and sets forth in detail the basis for the challenge. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration that affirms that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in the preceding paragraph and that sets forth with specificity the justification for the confidentiality designation that was given by the Designating Party in the meet and confer dialogue.

The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating Party. Until the court rules on the challenge, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation.

## 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Such Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When the litigation has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 11, below (FINAL DISPOSITION).

Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.

7.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated CONFIDENTIAL only to:

(a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of said Counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

(b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A);

(c) experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A);

(d) the Court and its personnel and the jury;

(e) court reporters, their staffs, and professional vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A);

(f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A). Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order.

(g) the author of the document or the original source of the information.

## 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION.

If a Receiving Party is served with a subpoena or an order issued in other litigation that would compel disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” the Receiving Party must so notify the Designating Party, in writing (by

fax, if possible) immediately and in no event more than three court days after receiving the subpoena or order. Such notification must include a copy of the subpoena or court order.

The Receiving Party also must immediately inform in writing the Party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all the material covered by the subpoena or order is the subject of this Protective Order. In addition, the Receiving Party must deliver a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order promptly to the Party in the other action that caused the subpoena or order to issue.

The purpose of imposing these duties is to alert the interested parties to the existence of this Protective Order and to afford the Designating Party in this case an opportunity to try to protect its confidentiality interests in the court from which the subpoena or order issued. The Designating Party shall bear the burdens and the expenses of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material – and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

#### **9. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

#### **10. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

Inadvertent production of any Discovery Material which a Producing Party later claims in good faith should not have been produced because of a privilege, including but not limited to the attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product doctrine, will not be deemed to have caused a waiver of any privilege. A Producing Party may request the return of any inadvertently

1 produced Discovery Material by identifying the inadvertently produced Discovery Material and  
2 stating a basis for withholding such from production. The party returning such Discovery  
3 Material may then move the Court for an order compelling production of the information, but  
4 said party shall not assert as a ground for entering an order the fact or circumstance of  
5 inadvertent production.

6  
7 **11. FILING PROTECTED MATERIAL.**

8 Without written permission from the Designating Party or a court order secured after  
9 appropriate notice to all interested persons, a Party may not file in the public record in this action  
10 any Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material must comply  
11 with Civil Local Rule 79-5.

12  
13 **12. FINAL DISPOSITION.**

14 Unless otherwise ordered or agreed in writing by the Producing Party, within sixty days  
15 after the final termination of this action, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material  
16 to the Producing Party. As used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies,  
17 abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other form of reproducing or capturing any of the  
18 Protected Material. With permission in writing from the Designating Party, the Receiving Party  
19 may destroy some or all of the Protected Material instead of returning it. Whether the Protected  
20 Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the  
21 Producing Party (and, if not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the sixty day  
22 deadline that identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was  
23 returned or destroyed and that affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies,  
24 abstracts, compilations, summaries or other forms of reproducing or capturing any of the  
25 Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an archival  
26 copy of all pleadings, motion papers, transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence or attorney  
27 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that  
28 contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in

Section 4 (DURATION), above.

**13. MISCELLANEOUS**

13.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

13.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

Dated: October 23, 2008.

LAW OFFICES OF ERIC F. FAGAN

By:    s/ Jeremy S. Golden     
Jeremy Golden  
Attorney for Plaintiff THERESA JOYCE

Dated: October 23, 2008.

LAW OFFICES OF MIRIAM HISER

By:                   /s/                    
Miriam Hiser  
Attorney for Defendant SALLIE MAE, INC.

PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED:

Dated:                                   



Hon. Susan Illson  
United States District Court Judge.

**EXHIBIT A**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name], of \_\_\_\_\_  
[print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and  
understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for  
the Northern District of California on [date] in the case of *Theresa Joyce v. Sallie Mae, Inc., et*  
*al.* I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order  
and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and  
punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner  
any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity  
except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the  
Northern District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated  
Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name] of  
\_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full address and telephone  
number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with this action or any  
proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective Order.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State where sworn and signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_  
[printed name]

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
[signature]